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## A preliminary report on Belitung Malay

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This paper is a preliminary report on the current Belitung Malay, based on my recordings of interviews and natural talks, questionnaire, and social network walls and their responses. The recordings and questionnaire were conducted on August 8<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> 2017 when I was visiting Belitung in order to study the history and the situation of tin mining.

Although the study of the data is not complete yet, I will report parts of the Belitung people’s language use as well as linguistic attitudes toward their language, which they call Melayu Belitong, or Bahasa Belitong.

I will describe three main topics of the linguistic features of MB, that is, 1. Phonological features, 2. Lexicons, and 3. Grammatical features. I argue that there are a large variety of MB’s orthography, which can be described on a scale of formal-informal, or non-casual-casual. Finally I argue that Belitung people’s messages on SMS, or social networks have been influential on the establishment of a certain orthography system of Belitung Malay, which used to be simply an oral tradition.